208719US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KEIICHI TANAKA

:ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION

(Based on PCT/JP98/05373)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: STAGE UNIT AND ITS

MAKING METHOD, AND EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND ITS MAKING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 4, lines 19-27, please replace the paragraph with the following:

From a first aspect, the present invention is a stage unit that is equipped with a driving unit including a mover and a stator; and a reaction canceling mechanism to apply to the stator a force canceling a reaction acting on the stator by electromagnetic interaction. This stage unit is referred to as a "first stage unit of the present invention" hereafter.

Page 7, lines 20-28, please replace the paragraph with the following: